

Message Text

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ACTION OES-04

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TO SECSTATE WASHDC 5310

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C O N F I D E N T I A L IAEA VIENNA 10324

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS/ PARM, TECH, IAEA

SUBJECT: CONSULTATIONS ON IAEA ACTIVITIES IN
PHYSICAL PROTECTION OF NUCLEAR MATERIAL

REF: (A) IAEA VIENNA 9124

(B) IAEA VIENNA 9142

1. GILLER AND MCDOWELL, AEC/HQ, TOGETHER WITH US
MISSOFFS AND RUBIN OF AEC OFFICE BRUSSELS, MET 12/9
WITH SENIOR IAEA OFFICIALS FOR INFORMAL DISCUSSION
OF WHAT MIGHT BE DONE BY AGENCY IN FIELD OF PHYSICAL
PROTECTION OF NUCLEAR MATERIALS. MEETING EXPLORED
MODALITIES OF FUTURE ACTIONS AND PROVED HIGHLY USEFUL
TO BOTH SIDES.

2. ROMETSCH, WHO CHAIRED MEETING, DESCRIBED AGENCY'S
WORK IN FIELD THUS FAR, CHIEFLY SPONSORSHIP OF EXPERT
PANEL WHICH IN 1972 DEVELOPED "RECOMMENDATIONS FOR THE
PHYSICAL PROTECTION OF NUCLEAR MATERIAL" (GREY BOOK),
ROMETSCH NOTED THAT AN AGENCY ADVISORY GROUP WAS SCHEDULED
TO MEET IN APRIL 1975 TO REVISE AND UPDATE GREY BOOK.
IN ORDER PREPARE WORKING PAPER FOR PANEL, US AND USSR
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WERE EACH BEING ASKED TO SEND CONSULTANT TO VIENNA IN

FEBRUARY. HE SUGGESTED THAT NEXT STEP AFTER ADVISORY GROUP MIGHT BE TO DEFINE AGENCY'S ROLE AS WELL AS ITS LIMITATIONS IN ANY PROPOSED IMPLEMENTATION OF THESE RECOMMENDATIONS.

3. GILLER STATED THAT AS FOLLOW-UP TO SECRETARY'S UNGA SPEECH, USG STOOD READY TO ASSIST AGENCY IN REVISION OF GREY BOOK WHICH, HE ADDED COULD BE IMPROVED BY GREATER DETAIL AND SPECIFICITY. NEW EDITION COULD USEFULLY INCLUDE TREATMENT OF (A) DEGREES OF PROTECTION TO BE AFFORDED VARYING AMOUNTS OF NUCLEAR MATERIAL AND (B) QUESTION OF NATIONAL SYSTEMS FOR "HOT PURSUIT" OF STOLEN MATERIALS AND ARRANGEMENTS FOR INTERNATIONAL COOPERATION ON THIS SUBJECT. IN ANY CASE, LINE WOULD HAVE TO BE DRAWN CAREFULLY BETWEEN WHAT GENERAL DESCRIPTIONS OF RELEVANT TECHNOLOGY AND PLANS COULD BE MADE PUBLIC AND WHAT DETAILS, FOR OBVIOUS REASONS, COULD NOT (A CAVEAT WHICH AGENCY OFFICIALS HEARTILY ENDORSED).

4. AS CONVERSATION TURNED TO MEANS OF IMPLEMENTING WHATEVER RECOMMENDATION PANEL DEVELOPS, IT BECAME CLEAR THAT FURTHER STUDY BY SECRETARIAT WILL BE NECESSARY. PRELIMINARY VIEW OF OTSUKA (DIRECTOR, LEGAL DIVISION) WAS THAT AUTHORITY MIGHT BE FOUND IN AGENCY STATUTE (E.G., ARTICLE III A.6) FOR AGENCY TO ESTABLISH STANDARDS FOR PHYSICAL PROTECTION, BUT HE WAS UNSURE OF AUTHORITY IN EVENT THAT INTERNATIONAL CONVENTION CONFERRED UPON IAEA RESPONSIBITLIY TO "INSPECT" NATIONAL PHYSICAL PROTECTION SYSTEMS. US SIDE SUGGESTED THAT OTHER AVENUES SHOULD BE LOOKED AT IN ADDITION TO INTERNATIONAL CONVENTION. SUPPLIER STATES, FOR EXAMPLE, MIGHT AGREE AMONG SELVES TO INSIST ON APPLICATION OF AGENCY'S PHYSICAL PROTECTION STANDARDS IN RECIPIENT STATE AS CONDITION OF SUPPLY. ANOTHER APPROACH MIGHT BE FOR AGENCY TO INSIST ON APPLICATION OF BOARD-APPROVED PHYSICAL PROTECTION REGULATIONS IN ALL AGENCY PROJECTS, (AS DEFINED IN ARTICLE XI OF STATUTE) AND ON RIGHT OF AGENCY TO ASSURE ITSELF THAT STANDARDS ARE BEING MET, AS IS CASE AT PRESENT WITH AGENCY HEALTH AND SAFETY REGULATIONS.

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5. IT WAS AGREED FOR TIME BEING THAT AGENCY, WITH ASSISTANCE OF EXPERTS FROM MEMBER STATES, SHOULD SPOCEED WITH REVISION OF GREY BOOK ALONG LINES DISCUSSED AND WITH SUBMISSION OF NEW VERSION TO BOARD FOR APPROVAL. METHODS OF IMPLEMENTATION OF STANDARDS, INCLUDING QUESTION OF AGENCY'S FURTHER ROLE RE NATIONAL PHYSICAL PROTECTION SYSTEMS WAS LEFT FOR FURTHER STUDY BY SECRETARIAT AND SUBSEQUENT DISCUSSION.

6. SUBJECT WAS DISCUSSED IN GENERAL WAY AT LUNCHEON SAME DAY WITH REPS OF UK, FRG AND CANADA. AMBASSADOR BEESLEY (CANADA) AND UNGERER (FRG) EXPRESSED CONSIDERABLE INTEREST IN DEVELOPING SOME SORT OF INTERNATIONAL REGIME IN PHYSICAL PROTECTION FIELD. NOT SURPRISINGLY, UK REP (JACKSON) SEEMED CONCERNED THAT ANY APPROACH ON GOVERNMENTAL LEVEL BE KEPT OUT OF PUBLIC LIMELIGHT. GILLER ATTEMPTED ASSURE HIM THAT OUR OWN CONCEPTS INCLUDED CONSIDERATION FOR APPROPRIATE DEGREE OF CONFIDENTIALITY.

7. FOLLOWING LUNCH, GILLER AND MISOFF MET WITH D.L. TOLCHENKOV OF USSR MISSION, AT LATTER'S REQUEST (AT END OF MISSION'S CONSULTATIONS WITH USSR REPORTED SEPTEL) TO DISCUSS SUBJECT OF PHYSICAL PROTECTION. POINT OF RAMBLING HOUR-LONG CONVERSATION WAS SUGGESTION BY TOLCHENKOV, TO WHICH GILLER AGREED, THAT SECRETARIAT BE ASKED BY USSR AND US TO PROVIDE LIST OF QUESTIONS TO CONSULTANTS FROM US AND USSR BEFORE THEY COME TO VIENNA IN FEBRUARY, IN ORDER TO FACILITATE THEIR ASSISTANCE TO SECRETARIAT IN PREPARING WORKING PAPER FOR UP-DATING OF GREY BOOK BY APRIL ADVISORY GROUP. IMPRESSION WAS THAT SUCH LIST WOULD BE USEFUL TO USSR MISSION IN ASSURING THAT MOSCOW WOULD SEND KNOWLEDGEABLE PERSON OR PERHAPS SIMPLY TO ASSURE THAT SOMEONE WOULD BE SENT.

8. MISSION INTENDS TO MAKE FOREGOING SUGGESTION TO ROMETSCH AND WILL ALSO SUGGEST THAT CONSULTANT FROM INTERESTED NNWS, SUCH AS FRG, BE INVITED. PORTER

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